**The Berlin Airlift 1948-49** Stalin closes all land corridors to Berlin to force out allies but they cont to supply by air

A steady increase in tension between ‘allies’. **Bizonia** = British and American sectors join together in economic unit and introduce Deutschmark. **Atomic bomb** = starts arms race. **No Votes** = Soviet occupied countries and German zones denied the right to vote.

Key People (the Allies): Churchill (GB PM) Roosevelt (USA Pres) Stalin (Soviet Russ Ldr) All at Yalta but Potsdam sees Clement Atlee (GB PM) and Truman (USA Pres). Change of personalities = change of plans + **the war is over**

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Soviet&East German response to citizens fleeing to the West through Berlin because of the better economy and political freedoms available there

Mikhail Gorbachev- Soviet leader of USSR (1985-91) = a new political approach of Glasnost (openness) and Perestroika (reform) that helped thaw the Cold War and aided the collapse of the Soviet Union (unintentionally)

Key people; Walter Ulbricht-East German leader (1950-71) was the first leader and started collectivisation of farming=financial stagnation for the East. Konrad Adenauer- West German Chancellor (1949-63) wanted to repair the West, denazify, restore democracy, end occupation+ gain independence Dr Ludwig Erhard- Adenauer’s Economic Minister- responsible for the economic miracle that made West Germany richest country in Western Europe

Soviets want revenge **Split of interests** Allies want to rebuild

**The Berlin Blockade June 1948**

Considered to add to **Détente** or a thawing of relations between East (Communism) and West (Capitalism), particularly within Germany during the 1950’s and 70’s

Reasons for Reunification: **Soviet Union collapses** = No more financial or military assistance for E. Germany. **Cold War Ends =** lack of interest for allies and NATO as Germany no longer the ‘front line’ **Helmut Kohl =** his leadership was needed and encouraged change despite opposition

**Berlin Wall opens! Nov 1989. German reunification! 3rd October 1990**

Helmut Kohl (Chancellor of West Germany and of united Germany 1982 -1998). Drags W.Germany out of 1970’s Recession and works toward reunification despite protests from NATO allies.

Willy Brandt- W. German Chancellor (1969-74) starts Ostpolitik

1947 The Marshall Plan (US Loans) Help West Germany rebuild and revitalise.

12th May 1949 Stalin calls off the Berlin Blockade but **Cold War** begins.

1955 West Germany (DDR) Joins NATO

1955 Warsaw Pact of Communist Eastern Europe formed in response to NATO

Yalta (Feb 1945) and Potsdam (July 45) conferences= Divided Germany, supposed to be temporary= 4 occupation zones WEST -GB, USA, France **EAST**-Soviet Russia (USSR) Berlin was divided into 4 like a mini Germany but was in the Soviet controlled East

Ostpolitik = A new approach to relations between West and East Germany

Cold war tensions continue and Berlin and Germany become the unofficial frontline. Many people are killed trying to cross the Berlin Wall.

Key events

1961: The Berlin Wall is erected